

# **Drug Absorption and Bioavailability**

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## **GOALS of Drug Absorption and Bioavailability Lecture**

- Factors Affecting Drug Absorption**
- Estimation of Bioavailability**
- Clinical Significance of Differences in Bioavailability**
- Prediction of Bioavailability in High-Throughput Drug Candidate Screening**

# **Factors Affecting DRUG ABSORPTION**

## Biopharmaceutic Factors

- Tablet compression
- coating and matrix
- excipients

## Interactions

- Food
- Other drugs
- Bacteria

## Physiological Factors

## **Change in PHENYTOIN *Excipients* Results in Epidemic Toxicity\***

Graph of plasma concentration versus time showing the extent of phenytonin absorption varied greatly with different excipients.

**\*Bochner F., et al. Proc Aust Assoc Neurol 1973;9:165-70**

## **Factors Affecting DRUG ABSORPTION**

### **-Biopharmaceutic Factors**

#### **- INTERACTIONS**

- Food**
- Other Drugs**
- Bacteria**

#### **- Physiologic Factors**

## ***ENTERIC METABOLISM OF DIGOXIN\****

Chemical structure of digoxin and metabolites produced by enteric bacteria.

**\* Lindenbaum J, et al. N Engl J Med 1981;305:789-94.**

# **Factors Affecting DRUG ABSORPTION**

Biopharmaceutic Factors

Interactions

**PHYSIOLOGICAL FACTORS**

# **Drug Absorption**

**Passive Non-Ionic Diffusion:  
Primary mechanism for  
most drugs.**

# **Drug Absorption**

## **- Specialized Transport Mechanisms**

**Large Neutral Amino Acid  
Transporter:**

***L-Dopa, Methyldopa, Baclofen***

# **Drug Absorption**

## **- Specialized Transport Mechanisms**

### **Oligopeptide Transporter**

**(PEPT-1):**

***Amino-beta-lactams***

***ACE Inhibitors***

# Drug Absorption

## - Specialized Transport Mechanisms

### Monocarboxylic Acid

Transporter:

*Salicylic acid*

*Pravastatin*

## **FALLACIES Concerning Gastric Drug Absorption**

- **Acidic Drugs absorbed in the stomach**
- **Basic Drugs absorbed in the small Intestine**
- **Gastric pH is always acidic**

In fact, most drug absorption occurs in the  
**SMALL INTESTINE**

## **ASPIRIN ABSORPTION FROM *STOMACH AND SMALL INTESTINE*\***

Table showing Aspirin (ASA) absorption from simultaneously perfused stomach and small intestine. Changes in pH reduce absorption from the stomach but intestinal absorption does not change significantly.

**\* From: Hollander D, et al. J Lab Clin Med 1981;98:591-8**

## **Variation in Gastric and Intestinal pH\***

Graph illustrating wide variation in gastric pH.

**\* Meldrum SJ, et al. Br Med J 1972;2:104-6.**

## **PHYSIOLOGICAL FACTORS Affecting Drug Absorption**

- **Rate of gastric emptying is a major determinant of *initial delay* in drug absorption.**
- **Intestinal motility is a determinant of the *extent* of drug absorption.**

## ***PATTERNS OF GASTRIC MOTOR ACTIVITY***

**Phase 1 - Quiescence**

**Phase 2 - Irregular Contractions**

**Phase 3 - Major Motor Complex Burst**

**Phase 4 - Transition Period**

## **Interdigestive Intestinal Motor Activity in Humans\***

**Chart illustrating gastrointestinal motor activity.**

**\*From: Rees WDW, et al. Dig Dis Sci 1982;27:321-9.**

## ***PATTERNS OF GASTRIC MOTOR ACTIVITY***

**POST PRANDIAL (*Up to 10 hr delay*)**

- **Pylorus constricted**
- **Antral contractions reduce particle size**

***GI TRANSIT - SUSTAINED-RELEASE  
CARBAMAZEPINE FORMULATION\****

Illustration of the significant inter-individual variation in extent of carbamazepine absorption.

**\*From: Wilding IR, et al. Br J Clin Pharmacol 1991;32:573-9.**

**Variation in “Peak” Levels  
ACETAMINOPHEN\***

Chart showing major variability in peak levels of Acetaminophen in patients.

**\* Prescott LF. Med Clin N Am 1974;42:907-16.**

## **Gastric Emptying Rate Affects ACETAMINOPHEN Absorption\***

Chart illustrating that metoclopramide accelerates gastric emptying and propantheline delays gastric emptying and the effect of these changes on acetaminophen absorption.

**\*From: Nimmo J, et al. Br Med J 1973;1:587-9.**

## **Factors Affecting RATE and EXTENT of Drug Absorption**

Illustration showing the impact of intestinal transit time and  
reserve length on drug absorption.

## RESERVE LENGTH

**RESERVE LENGTH** is the anatomical length over which absorption of a drug *can* occur **MINUS** the length at which absorption is complete.

## **Effect of METOCLOPRAMIDE on Digoxin Absorption\***

Graph of Digoxin serum levels showing that metoclopramide causes reduced absorption.

**\* From: Manninen V, et al. Lancet 1973;1:398-99.**

## **Effect of PROPANTHELINE on Digoxin Absorption\***

Chart illustrating that propantheline enhances digoxin absorption.

**\* From: Manninen V, et al. Lancet 1973;1:398-99.**

## **Factors Affecting RATE and EXTENT of Drug Absorption**

Illustration of the significance of mucosal surface area regarding drug absorption.

## **Normal Intestinal Villi**

Histological section under microscope.

## **Broad Intestinal Villi in a Patient with SPRUE**

Histological section under microscope. Major reduction in absorptive surface.

**Digoxin Levels in Patients with  
INTESTINAL MALABSORPTION\***

Chart illustrating reduced digoxin absorption.

**\* From: Heizer WD, et al. N Engl J Med 1971;285:257-9.**

## **Factors Affecting RATE and EXTENT of Drug Absorption**

Illustration highlighting the role of transporters in drug absorption.

# **P-GLYCOPROTEIN EFFLUX PUMP**

Intestinal Lumen

Illustration of this drug efflux pump.

Slides courtesy of M. Gottesman.

BIOAVAILABILITY OF SOME  
*P-GLYCOPROTEIN SUBSTRATES*

Chart showing percent of absorption for various substrate drugs.

## **70% BIOAVAILABILITY OF SOME P-GLYCOPROTEIN SUBSTRATES**

Illustration of how a large effective absorption surface can compensate for the effect of p-glycoprotein on drug absorption.

## **FACTORS AFFECTING RATE AND EXTENT OF DRUG ABSORPTION**

**Illustration of the impact of first-pass metabolism on drug absorption.**

## **Sites of FIRST-PASS Elimination**

### **- INTESTINAL MUCOSA**

**CYP Enzymes**

**P-Glycoprotein**

### **- LIVER**

**CYP Enzymes**

## **FIRST-PASS METABOLISM**

Illustration of first-pass metabolism and the portal circulation.

**First-Pass Metabolism  
± P-Glycoprotein Transport**

**ALDOSTERONE  
CYCLOSPORINE\*  
ISOPROTERENOL  
LIDOCAINE**

**MORPHINE\*  
NORTRIPTYLINE  
ORGANIC NITRATES  
PROPRANOLOL**

**\* Known P-Glycoprotein Substrates**

## **Factors Affecting RATE and EXTENT of Drug Absorption**

Illustration of the role of splanchnic circulation on drug absorption.

## **GOALS of Drug Absorption and Bioavailability Lecture**

- **Factors Affecting Drug Absorption**
- **ESTIMATION OF BIOAVAILABILITY**
- **Clinical Significance of Differences in Bioavailability**
- **Prediction of Bioavailability.**

# BIOAVAILABILITY

**BIOAVAILABILITY** is the *RELATIVE*  
*AMOUNT (F)* of a drug dose that reaches the  
systemic circulation unchanged and the *RATE*  
at which this occurs.

## **Serum Concentration-Time Curve after a Single Oral Dose**

Chart showing the area under the serum concentration time-curve after a single oral dose with the  $C_{max}$  and  $T_{max}$  values.

## **Significance of AUC**

Equations illustrating the significance of AUC and its relation to dose and clearance.

## **Calculation of AUC Trapezoidal Rule**

Graphic illustration of the use of the trapezoidal rule to estimate area under the curve.

**From: Rowland M, Tozer TN. Clinical Pharmacokinetics. p 470.**

**AUC A > B**

A chart illustrating this concept with 2 hypothetical drugs.

## ***ABSOLUTE* Bioavailability**

The formula for estimating absolute bioavailability is shown.

Comparison here is between an ORAL and an IV Formulation.

## ***RELATIVE* Bioavailability**

The formula for estimating relative bioavailability is shown.

The comparison here is between 2 ORAL Formulations.

**Old Ad for Bayer Timed-Release aspirin entitled,  
“How to keep salicylate blood levels up...even  
when your arthritis patient isn’t.”**

Illustrates why the dose administered needs to be considered when comparing the relative bioavailability of drug formulations.

Example of misleading advertisement.

## ***RELATIVE* Bioavailability**

The formula for relative bioavailability is shown.

AUC Values have to be normalized for dose.

## ***ASSESSMENT* of Bioavailability**

- **AUC Estimates can be used to estimate Extent of Drug Absorption**
  
- **Recovery of Parent Drug in Urine can be used to estimate Extent of Drug Absorption**
  
- **How is ABSORPTION RATE assessed?**
  - **TMAX**
  - **Integrated Pharmacokinetic Analysis of Absolute Bioavailability.**

## **Extent of Absorption from Renal Excretion of Unchanged Drug**

Formulas illustrating how to estimate absolute bioavailability from urinary recovery data after oral and intravenous administration.

## ***ASSESSMENT* OF Bioavailability**

- **AUC Estimates Can Be Used to Estimate Extent of Drug Absorption.**
  
- **Recovery of Parent Drug in Urine Can Be Used to Estimate Extent of Drug Absorption.**
  
- **HOW IS ABSORPTION RATE ASSESSED?**
  - **TMAX**
  - **Integrated Pharmacokinetic Analysis of Absolute Bioavailability.**

## **INTERACTION OF DRUG ABSORPTION AND DISPOSITION PROCESSES**

Illustration of these processes and the combination of absorption and disposition functions.

## **THE OPERATION OF CONVOLUTION**

Equations that illustrate this concept.

## **MODEL Used to Analyze Kinetics of Drug Absorption**

Graphic illustration of this model.

## **Calculation of Bioavailability from First-Order Absorption Model**

Mathematical formula.

## **Methods for Assessment of *ABSOLUTE* BIOAVAILABILITY**

- **CONVENTIONAL:**
  - IV and ORAL doses given on two separate occasions.**
  - **Requires two study sessions**
  - **Requires two sets of blood samples**
  - **Assumes no change in disposition parameters between studies**
  
- **STABLE ISOTOPE:**
  - **One study and set of blood samples**
  - **Special synthesis requirements**
  - **Mass Spectrometer Assay required**

# NAPA-<sup>13</sup>C<sub>2</sub>

Chemical structure for N-Acetylprocainamide.

## **Simultaneous Administration of Oral NAPA and IV NAPA-C<sup>13</sup>\***

Chart illustrating their pharmacokinetic profile.

**\* From Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther  
1989;46:182-9.**

## **MODEL Used to Analyze Oral NAPA and IV NAPA- C<sup>13</sup> Kinetics\***

Illustration of a 3-compartment model.

**\* From Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther  
1989;46:182-9.**

## **BIOAVAILABILITY Estimates From Kinetic Analysis and URINE RECOVERY**

Chart showing good agreement between percent predicted bioavailability by kinetic analysis and the actual percent of NAPA recovery in urine.

## **Factors Affecting RATE and EXTENT of Drug Absorption**

Illustration of the factors affecting rate and extent of drug absorption that highlights splanchnic blood flow.

## **NAPA PK Model After IV Dose**

Illustration of 3-compartment model emphasizing the fast intercompartmental clearance term.

## **Relationship Between $CL_F$ and Extent of NAPA Absorption\***

Graph of experimental data illustrating this relationship.

**\* From Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther  
1989;46:182-9.**

**THOUGHTS About  
Absolute Bioavailability Studies**

- **Absolute Bioavailability is usually studied in Healthy Subjects, *NOT* in the *Patient Population* for whom the drug is intended.**
- **The Stable Isotope Method is ideally suited for studies in *Special Populations* (e.g. *Pediatrics, Pregnant Women, other*)**

## **GOALS of Drug Absorption and Bioavailability Lecture**

- **Factors Affecting Drug Absorption**
- **Estimation of Bioavailability**
- **Clinical Significance of Differences in Bioavailability**
- **Prediction of Bioavailability**

## ***RELATIVE* Bioavailability Terms**

**Bioequivalence: AUC and Cmax within 80% - 125% of reference compound.**

***Bioinequivalence:* Greater difference in bioavailability.**

**Therapeutic Equivalence: Similar clinical effectiveness and safety.**

***Therapeutic Inequivalence:* Important clinical difference in bioavailability.**

**AUC A > B:  
Therapeutic Significance?**

Chart illustrating this concept.

## **AUC A > B: B Ineffective**

Illustration of this concept when drug B does not achieve therapeutic concentrations.

**AUC A > B:  
A and B Equally Effective**

Illustration of this concept when drug B achieves therapeutic concentrations in spite of a lower AUC.

**Equal AUC but Different  $K_a$ :  
B is Ineffective**

Chart illustrating that drug B has slower absorption that renders it ineffective.

**Equal AUC but Different  $K_a$ :  
A is Toxic**

Chart illustrating this concept and rapid absorption of drug A results in toxicity.

***RELATIVE BIOAVAILABILITY  
CONCLUSIONS***

- **BIOEQUIVALENCE =**

**THERAPEUTIC EQUIVALENCE**

- **BIOINEQUIVALENCE *NOT NECESSARILY* =**

**THERAPEUTIC INEQUIVALENCE**

## **GOALS of Drug Absorption and Bioavailability Lecture**

- **Factors Affecting Drug Absorption**
- **Estimation of Bioavailability**
- **Clinical Significance**
- ***PREDICTION* of Bioavailability as part of *High-Throughput* Drug Candidate Screening**

## ***WHY DRUG DEVELOPMENT FAILS***

- Unsuitable Biopharmaceutical Properties

- Unsuitable Clinical Pharmacokinetics

- Pharmacology (PD) Doesn't Work in Humans

- Unexpected Toxicity is Encountered

\* **Ronald E. White, Bristol-Myers Squibb (From Good Ligands to Good Drugs, AAPS-NIGMS Symposium, February 19-21, 1998)**

***BIOPHARMACEUTIC DRUG CLASSIFICATION*** \*

**CLASS I:**

**High Solubility-High Permeability**

**CLASS II:**

**Low Solubility-High Permeability**

**CLASS III:**

**High Solubility-Low Permeability**

**CLASS IV:**

**Low Solubility-Low Permeability**

**\* From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20**

## ***Three CRITICAL*** **Biopharmaceutical Properties**

- **Drug Solubility *Relative* to Dose**  
GOOD = Highest Dose in 250 mL H<sub>2</sub>O, PH 1.0-7.5
  
- **Dissolution Rate of Formulation**  
GOOD = 85% Dissolution in 15 min
  
- **Intestinal Permeability of Drugs**

## **CORRELATION of Rates of Drug Dissolution and Oral ABSORPTION**

**Chart showing this correlation.**

**From Rackley RJ. In Young D, Devane JG, Butler J,  
eds. In vitro-in vivo correlations. p. 1-15.**

## **Three Critical Biopharmaceutical Properties**

- Drug Solubility Relative to Dose**
- Dissolution Rate of Formulation**
- Intestinal Permeability of Drug**

## **Bioavailability vs. Jejunal Permeability\***

Chart illustrating this comparison for several prototype drugs.

**\* From Amidon GL et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20.**

## **Bioavailability vs. *Caco-2* Cell Permeability $P_{app}$ \***

Chart illustrating this in vitro-in vivo correlation.

**\*From Arturson P, Karlsson J. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 1991;175:880-5**

## **Evaluation of Caco-2 Cell Model**

### **- ADVANTAGES**

- *In Vitro* Method**
- Suitable for High-Throughput**

### **- DISADVANTAGES**

- ↓ Paracellular Permeability**
- ↓ Drug Metabolizing Enzymes and Transporters**
- No Hepatic First-Pass Metabolism**

# **BIOPHARMACEUTIC DRUG CLASSIFICATION \***

## **CLASS I:**

### **HIGH SOLUBILITY-HIGH PERMEABILITY**

**- *in vitro* – *in vivo* correlation generally good**

**- *but* no way to account for 1st pass metabolism**

**From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20**

## **BIOPHARMACEUTIC DRUG CLASSIFICATION \***

### **CLASS II:**

#### **LOW SOLUBILITY-HIGH PERMEABILITY**

- **rate of absorption limited by dissolution rate**
- ***in vitro* – *in vivo* correlation tenuous since many factors may affect dissolution**

**From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20**

## **BIOPHARMACEUTIC DRUG CLASSIFICATION \***

### **CLASS III:**

#### **HIGH SOLUBILITY-LOW PERMEABILITY**

- Intestinal reserve length is marginal.**
- If dissolution is rapid, bioavailability will reflect intestinal permeability and transit time.**

**\* From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20**

## **BIOPHARMACEUTIC DRUG CLASSIFICATION \***

### **CLASS IV:**

#### **LOW SOLUBILITY-LOW PERMEABILITY**

- *in vitro* – *in vivo* correlation poor
- good bioavailability not expected

**\* From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20**

## THE BOTTOM LINE

### ***CLASS I DRUGS:***

#### **HIGH SOLUBILITY-HIGH PERMEABILITY**

- *Preferred* as development candidates
- FDA may *waive* repeat *in vivo* testing if initial formulation has good bioavailability\*.

**\*Waiver of In Vivo Bioavailability and Bioequivalence Studies for Immediate-Release Solid Oral Dosage Forms Based on a Biopharmaceutics Classification System, CDER Guidance for Industry, August 2000.**